

STATE SENATOR • DEBORAH CHERRY • 26TH DISTRICT

Cherry Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-1636 • Fax: 517-373-1453
E-mail: sendcherry@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD26



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 22, 2004

CONTACT: Sen. Deb Cherry (D-Burton)
(517) 373-1636

SENATE PASSES LEAD POISONING BILL PACKAGE

LANSING – State Senator Deborah Cherry (D-Burton) is hopeful that Michigan’s children will soon be free to live, run and play without being haunted by the invisible threat of lead poisoning. The senate passed a bill today that systemically attacks lead poisoning and the ailments it causes.

Co-sponsored by Senator Cherry, the bills calls for the formation of a statewide commission that will study the environmental threats of lead poisoning to children’s health, review the state’s lead poisoning program and its effectiveness, and make recommendations for improvements. Other pieces of the legislation in the package will require clinical laboratories to report findings from blood lead analyses to the health department within 30 days. The package will also criminalize the act of knowingly renting a lead-contaminated home – making it a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail or a fine of not more than \$5,000. Lastly, a public Lead Safe Housing Registry will be created.

“I am committed to protecting the youngest and most vulnerable residents in my district,” Cherry said. “We will work diligently to eradicate this silent killer from the homes and lives of our friends, neighbors and loved ones,” she added.

###

Senator Deborah Cherry is a first-term Democrat from Burton, Michigan. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee, where she sits on the Higher Education, Department of Community Health, Department of Natural Resources and Capital Outlay subcommittees.